

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 OES-03 NASA-01

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CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMIPAC

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COMUSTDC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PFOR CH
SUBJECT: WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA NO. 51

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REVOLUTION ACHIEVEMENTS
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SUMMARY: IDEOLOGICAL CONCERNS SEEM TO BE COMING BACK TO THE FORE WITH CALLS FOR SUPPORT OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION'S ACHIEVEMENTS. HIGH ON THE LIST OF DISCUSSION ITEMS IS THE QUESTION OF WHICH LINE IS TO DOMINATE THE EDUCATION FIELD, AND POSTER DEBATES HAVE UNFOLDED ON PEKING'S CAMPUSES. POLITBURO VICE CHAIRMAN KANG SHENG HAS PASSED AWAY AT AGE 77, LEAVING PEKING WITH A SECOND GAP IN THE PARTY'S TOP LEADERSHIP THIS YEAR. EXTERNALLY, THE PRC MEDIA HAS CONTINUED ITS EMPHASIS ON THE SITUATIONS IN ANGOLA AND TIMOR AS WELL AS ON CONDEMNATION OF THE SOVIETS AROUND THE WORLD. ALL PRCA OWNED PAPERS IN HONG KONG CARRIED WESTERN REPORTS ON THE RETURN OF THE REMAINS OF THE TWO AMERICAN FLYERS. END
SUMMARY

1. INTERNAL SCENE-- REAFFIRMING THE CULTURAL REVOUTION
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ACHIEVEMENTS

SOMEWHAT ABOVE THE EDUCATION DEGATE'S PRACTICAL ARGUMENTS, THERE APPEARS TO BE A BROAD SPECTRUM OF IDEOLOGICAL DISCUSSION WHICH TRUSTS INTO CONTENTION CHINA'S MIX OF "REVOLUTION AND PRODUCTION". SINCE THE CONCLUSION OF THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS, THE PRODUCTION EMPHASIS AND THE "POWERFUL MODERN SOCIALIST" CHINA GOAL HAVE LEFT IDEOLOGY

BY THE WAYSIDE OF THE OVERALL REGIME CAMPAIGN. THE BREUARY DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT CAMPAIGN AND THE SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION OF "WATER MARGIN" AS MEANS TO PREVENT CAPITULATION ISM AND REVISIONISM BOTH HAVE BEEN USEFUL IN TERMS OF STIMULATING DISCUSSIONS BUT HAVE HAD, PARTICULARLY IN THE LATTER CASE, ONLY MARGINAL IMPACT ON THE PRODUCTION DRIVE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

2. THE DECEMBER RED FLAG'S FIRST SECTION URGING SUPPORT FOR THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE GREAT PROLETARIAN CULTURAL REVOLUTION (CR) APPEARS TO REPRESENT YET ANOTHER ROUND OF EFFORT TO GENERATE CONCERN WITH IDEOLOGICAL ISSUES. ASIDE FROM ITS SUPPOSED VIRTUE OF IMPELING PRODUCTIVE FORCES, IDEOLOGY-- PARTICULARLY AS IT APPLIES TO PERSONALITIES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION-- HAS THE POTENTIAL FOR CONSIDERABLE DISSENSATION AMONG THE LEADERSHIP. DISCUSSION AT PRESENT SEEMS CENTERED ON EDUCATION, BUT THERE HAVE BEEN CALLS TO REAFFIRM OTHER CR CONTRIBUTIONS WITH THE THREE -IN-ONE COMBINATION OF "OLD, MIDDLE-AGED, AND YOUNG" THE ONLY OTHER SECTION WHERE THE LANGUAGE MAY BE BASED ON DIVERGENT LINES AND PERHAPS ON FAILURE TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON THE CR AFFIRMED PRINCIPLES. DISCUSSIONS REMAIN PRIMARILY AT THE CENTER WITH JEN JUNG IN TIBET THE ONLY TOP PROVINCIAL LEADER SO FAR IDENTIFIED WITH STATEMENTS CALLING FOR CORRECT HANDLING OF CR ACHIEVEMENTS. FROM EVERYTHING WE HAVE SEEN, THE CURRENT DISCUSSION IS INSISTENT ON IMPLEMENTING CR POLICIES BUT RATIONAL AND UNEMOTIONAL IN ITS CALL FOR ACTION.

3. EDUCATION DEBATE

THE MAJOR FOCUS OF THE NEW CAMPAIGN CONTINUES TO BE HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY (WR 50). REPORTS RECEIVED IN THE PAST WEEK
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(HONG KONG 14699, 14825) INDICATE THAT STUDENTS AND TEACHERS AT TSINGHUA AND PEKING UNIVERSITIES BEGAN TO HOLD MEETINGS AS EARLY AS NOVEMBER 18, THE DAY OF THE EDUCATION MINISTER'S DEPARTURE FOR AFRICA. CRITICISM OF THE MINISTER'S POLICIES WAS CONVEYED TO CHAIRMAN MAO BY POLITBURO MEMBER/PEKING MUNICIPAL BOSS WU TEH, AFTER WHICH THE CHAIRMAN IS SAID TO HAVE SANCTIONED FURTHER DEBATE. THIS DEBATE RAPIDLY BECAUSE AN ALMOST UNANIMOUS DEFENSE OF THE CURRENT POST -CULTURAL REVOLUTION LINE IN EDUCATION, REPORTEDLY LED BY THE UNIVERSITIES' PARTY SECRETARIES EANG LIEN-LUNG (PEITA) AND CHIH CHUN (TSINGHUA), THE LATTER A CLOSE COLLABORATOR OF CHIANG CHING. CONFIDENTIAL

4. THE PRC MEDIA HAVE ECHOED THIS DEFENSE IN SEVERAL ARTICLES IN RED FLAG AND PEOPLE'S DAILY , AS WELL AS IN

SCATTERED PROVINCIAL BROACCASTS. MUCH OF THE PROPAGANDA EXPLICITLY ADMINTS THE ECISTENCE OF "SHORTCOMINGS" OR "IMPERFECTIONS" IN THE CURRENT POLICIES, BUT WARNS AGAINST LOSING SIGHT OF THE OVERALL CLASS STRUGGLE WHILE TRYING TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS. A SHANSI BROADCAST HAS CONTRIBUTED A RINGING DEFENSE OF WORKER PROPAGANDA TEAMS, ONE OF THE ISSUES IN THE CURRENT CONTROVERSY, WHILE ARTICLES IN LIAONING'S CHAOYANG AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE IN PEOPLE'S DAILY AND NCNA HAVE ONCE AGAIN HELD UP THIS SOMEWHAT EXTREME EXAMPLE OF RUSTIC, "OPEN-TO-SOCIETY" EDUCATION AS A MODEL FOR OTHER SCHOOLS. MOST PUBLIC COMMENTARIES HAVE REMAINED BALANCED, HOWEVER, AND THERE IS NO SIGN THAT THIS CAMPAIGN WILL GET OUT OF HAND. CONFIDENTIAL

5. POLITBURO LOSES A VICE CHAIRMAN-- KANG SHENG DIES

NCNA ANNOUNCED THE DECEMBER 16 DEMISE OF POLITBURO VICE CHAIRMAN KANG SHENG AT THE AGE OF 77. KANG SHENG HAD BEEN ILL AND APPEARED INFREQUENTLY FOLLOWING THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION WHEN HE WAS A LEADING PARTICIPANT IN THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION GROUP DOMINATED BY CHIANG CHING. HE WAS A LONG-TIME CONFIDENT OF THE CHAIRMAN AND A PUBLIC SECURITY MAN. THE FUNERAL COMMITTEE FOR KANG SHENG WAS VIRTURALLY IDENTICAL WITH THE ONE FOR APRIL'S DECASED POLITBURO MEMBER, TUNG PI-WU. THE OBITURARY NOTICE, HOWEVER, WAS MORE EXPANSIVE ON KANG SHENG HTHAN ON TUNG AND PARTICULARLY REFLECTED ELEMENTS CONFIDENTIAL

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OF CURRENT POLITICAL CAMPAIGNING AND IDEOLIGICAL LINES. IN KANG'S NOTICE, EVERYONE IS ADDITONALLY URGED TO "CONSOLIDATE AND DEVELOP THE VICTORIES OF THE GREAT PROLETARIAN CULTURAL REVOLUTION, U ITE AS ONE, --- AND COMBAT AND PREVENT REVISIONISM", WHICH REFLECTS THE CURRENT EDUCATION DICUSSIONS AND THE STUDY OF THE "WATER MARGIN", BOTH BEGUN AFTER TUNG'S DEMISE. LIMTED OFFICIAL USE

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ACTION EA-09

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CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMIPAC

CHMAAGCHINA

COMUSTDC

CDR USACC TAIWAN

327 AIR DIV TAIPEI AS

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AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY ROME

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

6. PEKING LAUNCHES EARTH SATELLITE NUMBER FIVE

NCNA TODAY ANNOUNCED THE LAUNCHING OF CHINA'S FIFTH EARTH SATELLITE ON DECEMBER 16. THERE WAS NO INDICATION ON ANY

TRAJECTORY OR ANGLE OF ORBIT. AS HAS BEEN THE CASE PREVIOUSLY, THERE WAS NO ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE PURPOSE OF THE SATELLITE OR WHETHER OR NOT THIS ONE WOULD BE BROUGHT BACK TO EARTH AS THE LAST, WHICH WAS RETURNED DURING THE FORD VISIT (WR 49.) THE ANNOUNCEMENT, LIKE THE KANG SHENG OBITUARY MENTIONED ABOVE, VARIED FROM ITS PRESEDECESSOR IN ORDER TO REFLECT CURRENT IDEOLOGICAL TOPICS AND, IN ADDITION TO MENTIONING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION, CALLED THE LAUNCH A SUCCESS "ACHIEVED BY ADHERING TO THE PRINCIPLE OF INDEPENDENCE AND SELF-RELAINCE, BRINGING INTO FULL PLAY THE INITIATIVE OF BOTH THE CENTRAL AND LOCAL AUTHRORITIES, UNIFYING PLANNING, WORKING ENERGETICALLY IN CLOSE COORDINATION, (AND) WAGING A UNITED STRUGGLE. " LIMITED OFFICIA USE

7. RETURN OF DOCUMENT NINE

SEVERAL RECENT TRAVELERS TO CHINA HAVE REPORTED SEEING POSTERS AND SLOGANS CALLING FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF CENTRAL DOCUMENT NINE, WHICH WAS ISSUED ABOUT MARCH, 1975, AND DEALS WITH LABOR TROUBLES IN RAIL TRANSPORT. THESE POSTERS WERE SPOTTED IN REGIONS AS FAR APART AS MANCHURIA, HINAN, AND KWANGTUNG. WHILE THE EVIDENCE IS SCANTY, THIS MAY INDICATE THAT THE TROUBLES WHICH PLAGUED THE RAIL TRANSPORT SYSTEM UP THROUGH LAST SPRING HAVE STILL NOT BEEN IRONED OUT.

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8. NEW APPOINTMENTS

SEVERAL NEW SUB-CABINET APPOINTMENTS CAME TO LIGHT OR WERE CONFIRMED LAST WEEK. PENG TE-CHING, A FORMER NAVYMAN WHO SERVED AS VICE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS PRIOR TO HIS PURGE
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IN THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION, WAS IDENTIFIED BACK IN HIS OLD POST IN A DECEMBER 9 NCNA REPORT. PENG MIN, WHO WAS TENTA-TIVELY IDENTIFIED AS A VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION COMMISSION ON NATIONAL DAY (HONG KONG A-203) HAS BEEN CONFIRMED IN THIS POSITION. CHIEN CHUAN-CHUN, WHOSE BACKGROUND IS UNKNOWN, APPEARS FROM HIS POSITION AT A RECENT ALBANIAN RECEPTION TO BE A VICE MINISTER OF METALLURGY. AT THE SAME TIME, WE HAVE DETERMINED THAT THE HSIAO HAN WHO WAS RECENTLY NAMED VICE MINISTER OF COAL (WR 45) IS NOT IDENTICAL WITH NANNING MUNICIPAL PARTY SECRETARY HSIAO HAN, WHO REMAINS IN THAT POST. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

9. IN OTHER DEVELOPMENTS, TIENTSIN PARTY SECRETARY HSU HSIN WAS IDENTIFIED ON DECEMBER 9 AS CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE PEKING MILITARY REGION. ALTHOUGH IT IS UNCLEAR WHETHER HE RETAINS HIS TIENTSIN TITLE, WE ASSUME THAT HSU'S MAIN DUTY IS IN THE MR. MEANWHILE TUNG KUO-HUEI, COMMANDER OF THE

SHANTUNG MILITARY DISTRICT SINCE THE MID-60'S HAS BEEN
TRANSFERRED TO HUNAN AS MD COMMANDER, RELACING YANG TA-
YI, WHO EARLIER WAS SHIFTED TO LIAONING. LIMITED OFFICIA
USE

10. UNITED STATES

ALTHOUGH NCNA HAS NOT MENTIONED THE RETURN OF THE REMAINS
OF THE TWO AMERICAN FLYERS, ALL THREE LOCAL PRC-OWNED
NEWSPAPERS CARRIED PROMINENTLY WESTERN NEWS AGENCY REPORTS
ON THE EVENT. UNCLASSIFIED

1. THE SOVIET UNION
AND THE UNITED STATES

NCNA AND THE LOCAL COMMUNIST-OWNED NEWSPAPERS IN HONG KONG
HAVE CITED A WASHINGTON NEWS REPORT OF THE SOVIET-LINKED
BUGGING DEVICE DISCOVERED IN 1973 IN THE US CONGRESS AS
WELL AS HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
MORGAN'S STATEMENTS INDICATING THAT THE "BUG" COULD HAVE
PICKED UP US DISCUSSIONS ON SALT, MILITARY AID, AND VIETNAM
WITHDRAWALS(NCNA DECEMBER 14) UNCLASSIFIED

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12.... AND CHINA

CHIEF OF THE SOVIET FONMIN FAR EAST SECTION MIKHAIL KAPITSA
RECENTLY REVEALED THAT, IN ADDITION TO THE DOWNED
HELICOPTER CREW, THE CHINESE ARE HOLDING THREE SOVIET CITIZENS
WHO "ACCIDENTALLY STRAYED" IN CHINESE TERRIOTRY. PRC
MEDIA THUS FAR HAVE IGNORED THE REPORT AND KAPITSA PROVIDED
NO DETAILS OF THE INCIDENT (REUTERS, DECEMBER 15).
UNCLASSIFIED

13. MEANWHILE, AS THE CHINESE PREPARE TO BEGIN THEIR OWN
FOURTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN, PRC MEDIA HAVE CONTINUED TO SCORE
SOVIET FAILURE TO FULFILL THE "MODEST GOALS" OF ITS NINTH
FIVE-YEAR PLAN WHICH ENDS THIS YEAR. AN NCNA CORRESPONDENT
ARTICLE HAS ATTRIBUTED THE BREZHNEV CLIQUE'S FAILURE TO
MEET PLANNED AGRICLUTURAL TARGETS AND TO FULFILL REPEATED
PLEDGES TO THE SOVIET PEOPLES TO RAISE THE STANDARD OF
LIVING TO ITS DIVERSION OF FUNDS INTO ARMS EXPANSION AND
WAR PREPARATIONS. THE COMMENTARY CONTENDED THAT THE
SITUATION IN THE SOVIET UNION WILL CONTINUE TO WORSEN (NCNA,
DECEMBER 14) UNCLASSIFIED

14. PRC MEDIA REPORTING ON THE NATO COUNCIL MEETING IN
BRUSSELS CITED PARTICIPATING MINISTER'S EXPRESSIONS OF
CONCERN OVER THE GROWTH OF WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES' MILITARY
STRENGTH AND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE BALANCES OF POWER IN

EURPOE. IT NOTED THAT THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE CALLED FOR NATO TO MAINTAIN STRONG FORCES FOR DETERRENCE AND DEFENSE, CITED DEFENSE SECRETARY RUMSFELD'S REAFFIRMATION OF NATO AS A FOUNDATION OF US FOREIGN POLICY, AND SECRETARY KISSINGER'S STATEMENT THAT THE US WILL NOT BE PARTY TO THE DENUCLEARIZATION OF EURPOE.

15. ALTHOUGH NCNA REPORTED THAT THE NATO MINISTERS ALSO DISCUSSED ANGOLA, IT NOTED ONLY THE VIEWS OF THE SECRETARY AND CITED HIS SUBSEQUENT STATEMENTS TO THE PRESS INDICATING THAT THE US WILL NOT BE INDIFFERENT TO SOVIET INTERVENTION OR ALLOW MOSCOW TO ACQUIRE A FOOTHOLD THERE (NCNA DECEMBER 12). UNCLASSIFIED

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IN ADDITION TO CARRYING SECRETARY KISSINGER'S REMARKS ON ANGOLA, THE PRC MEDIA DURING THE WEEK PROVIDED NO SELF-GENERATED COMMENT BUT RELIED ON REPLAYS OF AFRICAN COMMENT ON THE SITUATION. IN THESE REPLAYS, NCNA HAS STRESSED THE CALL FOR UNIT AMONG ALL THREE ANGOLAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AS WELL AS THE NEED FOR THE SUPERPOWERS TO CEASE THEIR INVOLVEMENT. NCNA ALSO REPORTED THAT THE PRC AMBASSADOR TO KINSHASA MET ON DECEMBER 14 WITH PRESIDENT MOBUTU BUT, AS USUAL, GAVE NO DETAIL ON THE MEETING (NCNA DECEMBER 11-15) UNCLASSIFIED

17. TIMOR

PRC ATTENTION TO TIMOR HAS TURNED TO THE UN AND THE DEBATE ON INDONESIA'S CURRENT ROLE IN TIMOR. THE PRC UN REPRESENTATIVES HAVE CASTIGATED THE INDONESIANS FOR THE ARMED INVASION AND HAVE EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ON THE USEFULNESS OF SENDING A UN INVESTIGATIVE TEAM TO TIMOR. THEY HAVE ALSO REPEATEDLY POINTED OUT THAT FRETELIN HAS ALREADY PROCLAIMED EAST TIMOR'S INDEPENDENCE, BUT THE PRC CONTINUES TO REFRAIN FROM RECOGNITION OF THE NEW COUNTRY. THERE HAVE BEEN NO NEW PRC MEDIA COMMENTARIES ON TIMOR, ALL OF WHICH INDICATES THAT THE CHINESE REMAIN UNCERTAIN OF TIMOR'S FUTURE AND DESIRE TO KEEP ALL OF THEIR OPTIONS OPEN (NCNA, DECEMBER 9. AND 11)

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